CLAIMS

I claim:

1. A stabilizer for a tremolo device of the type having a tremolo bridge plate movably coupled to the body of an instrument, strings coupled to the bridge plate, spring means coupled to the bridge plate and opposing the tension of the strings and a tremolo actuator arm coupled to the bridge plate, said stabilizer comprising: a cam operatively associated with the bridge plate, said cam having a first inoperative position and a second operative position in which it stabilizes the bridge plate by limiting movement of the bridge plate in one direction in response to the spring means, means for maintaining said cam in said first position and said second position comprising of a frictional restraint in contact with said cam, method for establishing the normal position of the bridge, said cam and said means being coupled to said bridge plate for movement therewith.

2. Apparatus in accordance with claim 1, and a limit stop coupled to said bridge plate for movement therewith, said cam having thereon means to maintain said cam in said second position when engaged with said limit stop.

3. A method for stabilizing a tremolo bridge associated with a stringed instrument, comprising the steps of positioning the tremolo bridge with the stabilizer in the operative position, adjusting the spring anchor screw means such that the spring means constrains the stabilizer to the body of the instrument, tuning all strings individually on the instrument by conventional means, moving the stabilizer to the inoperative position, auditing the tuning and if necessary retuning all strings simultaneously using the spring anchor screw means, thereby establishing the normal position of the bridge, and selectively moving the stabilizer to the operative position, in which the stabilizer maintains the bridge in said normal position, in response to failure of a string or for purposes of efficiently tuning the instrument.